(*b*) The Board were of opinion that in view of the reconstruction of the Karingochira bridge recently, the canal through Trippunittura town need alone be opened now and that the canal will meet the needs of the situation. After opening the canal the effect may be watched and if need is felt then the canal along the Kodakulangara *veli* may be considered.

(*c*) Government have to examine the feasibility of the suggestions made by the Board before a decision can be arrived at in the matter.

Mr. V. N. Damodaran Nambiar *(Trippunittura):* Sir, with regard to the opening of this canal, had not the Government an opportunity of examining its possibility before?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* The estimates of the canal have been prepared and are now in the possession of the Government. The financial commitments of the scheme have to be examined.

Mr. V. N. Damodaran Nambiar *(Trippunittura):* My question was whether they had an opportunity before of examining the estimates and also the feasibility of opening this canal?

Mr V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* They had not examined the question of cost and other things connected with the scheme.

Mr. V. N. Damodaran Nambiar *(Trippunittura):* May I know, Sir, how long this examination will take?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* I want notice. In fact it is my intention to place the question again before the Government with another report and I think they may come to a decision before the next budget is passed.

COCHIN-TRAVANCORE WATER-BORNE TRADE—MONOPOLY BY TRAVANCORE BOATS

292. Mr. V. K. Bhaskara Menon *(Cranganur):* Will the Government be pleased to state whether they are aware that.—

(*a*) Travancore country boats monopolise the carrying trade between the Port of Cochin and the various parts of Travancore;

(*b*) that these boats do not pay anything to our State; and

(*c*) if the answer is in the affirmative, will the Government kindly take steps to collect some sort of fees from them?

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Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):*

(*a*) and (*b*) Travancore country boats frequent the Port of Cochin to transport merchandise to places in Travancore. According to canal Rule No. 6 these boats are not liable to take out licenses in Cochin provided they do not ply exclusively in Cochin waters.

(*c*) No answer in view of answer to (*a*) and (*b*).

Mr. V. K. Bhaskara Menon *(Cranganur):* May I know, Sir, the nature of that rule No. 6.

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* Rule No. 6 is, an exemption rule, to the effect that certain boats licensed in Travancore need not take out licenses in Cochin State, provided they do not ply exclusively in Cochin waters.

Mr. V. J. Mathai *(Planters):* Don't you get the same reciprocity in Travancore?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* Yes.

Mr. C. V. Iyyu *(Kunnamkulam):* In British India?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* There also.

TEXTILE MILLS—PARTICULARS OF EMPLOYEES

293. Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Trichur-South):* Will the Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) the number of persons employed in each of the two textile mills namely, Cochin Textiles and Sitaram at the close of 1113 and 1114 excluding the clerical department;

(*b*) their sex;

(*c*) the number of women employed below the age of 18 and above the age of 18;

(*d*) the average minimum wage that a woman or a girl gets for a day;

(*e*) the average minimum wage that a man or a boy gets for a day;

(*f*) the maximum hours of work that a mill hand works a day?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):*

Sita Ram Mills

	1113	**1114**
(*a*)	1648.	1649.

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